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1780. *December 15.* (11 present.)

Meeting presided over by Gov. Joseph Reed.

Isaac Gray on a proliferous plant.

“Mr. Nicola communicated a paper containing some proposals for erecting Committees of their members in the different States under certain regulations.” [Laid on the table; no explanation in the minutes.]

Mr. Biddle requested to deliver the annual oration.

1781. *Jany. 5. Election.* (*Carpenters' Hall.*)

Dr. Franklin unanimously elected, . . . . *President.*  
 Bond, Rittenhouse and Jas. Wilson, . . . *Vice prests.*  
 Ewing, Owen Biddle, Matlack and White, . *Secs.*  
 Nicola, Duffield and DuSimitière, . . . . *Curators.*  
 Hopkinson, . . . . . *Treasurer.*

Geo. Bryan,	}	<i>Councillors for 3 years.</i>
Thos. McKean,		
D. Marbois [ <i>sic</i> ],		
Ch. Thompson,		
Rev <sup>d</sup> Duffield,	}	<i>2 years.</i>
Gov <sup>r</sup> . Livingston,		
Gov <sup>r</sup> . Jefferson,		
Dr. Witherspoon,		
Dr. Ezra Stiles,	}	<i>1 year.</i>
Mat. Clarkson,		
Jon. B. Smith,		
John Lukens,		

1781. *Jan. 19.*—(21 present.)

LaFayette, Ebenezer Hazard, Jared Ingersoll and four other new members elected.

1781. *Feb'y 2.*—Too small attendance for business; adjourned to 1781, Feb'y 6, Tuesday.

Letter from De Granchain on the eclipse of the Sun 27 Oct. 1781; and of the moon Nov. 11, at Newport, R. I.

Rittenhouse read an account of "Some experiments in Magnetism, &c."

Also on "Height of the Mercury in Fahrenheits thermometer in Jan. 1780 & 1781." *Mean of January 1780*  $13\frac{3}{4}^{\circ}$ , of Jan. 1781,  $35^{\circ}$ .

A committee to inquire into the circumstances of the Silk Factory, appointed.

1781. *Feby* 16. (9 present.)

Letter from Gen. Sullivan, on the discovery of a large body of talc, 70 miles from Portsmouth, N. H. with a specimen.

Bond from the Treasurer; receipt and bond by the Curators, to be taken by a Committee of two.

Committee on place, time and publication of annual oration, appointed.

*Certificate of Membership*, drafted one adopted. [The form adopted occupies only 6 short lines.]

\$100 paid for ingrossing the *Act of Incorporation*.

1781. *March* 2. (At the University.)

*A large meeting, among whom were some distinguished strangers.*

Owen Biddle delivered the Oration.

After the retirement of guests, Dr. Bond in the chair, returned thanks, and on motion a copy for publication was requested.

1781. *March* 16. (9 present.)

In the absence of Prest. and V. Presidents, the *eldest councillor* present, Mr. Marbois was called to the chair.

Report on the state of the Silk Factory. Doc. No. 6.

Note from Sam. Adams with copy of Jas. Bowdoin's

Philosophical Discourse (as Pres.) before the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in Boston. Note from Marbois with list of prizes offered by the Acad. Scien. Lyons, one of which called for an essay on "Has the discovery of America been advantageous to mankind?"

J. Boardley read on the Weather in Maryland.

Ten pounds of raw silk ordered, "of the best kind of the produce of Penn<sup>a</sup>. to be transmitted to Lyons, there to be wrought in the most elegant manner" and presented to her most Christian Majesty as a mark of very high respect.

Letters from La Fayette and others received.

Committee appointed to meet the Managers of the Silk Society and induce them to deliver up all the moneys and property of the Silk Society to be refunded if the Silk Society be revived actively, to them or their assigns.


1781. *April 6.* (No business meeting, only 3 members being present.)

1781. *April 20.* (11 present.)

Committee appointed to arrange the papers of the Society for publication. Com. of 5.

Five persons from each of the "established Committees" on Medicine and Anatomy—on Natural History and Chemistry,—on Trade and Commerce,—on Mechanics and Architecture,—on Husbandry and American improvements—were then selected to act as committees for preparing the papers for the press.

[Here are bound into the minute book 6 sheets; on the first of which is engrossed the Petition of the Society, respecting Silk Culture (idea broached in 1770), signed Thos. Bond V. P.

[Follows:—Minutes of May 21, 1782  respecting meeting in the State House to hear Dr. Bond's annual oration.

[Follows :—List of members present May 20, 82. Delivered to the doorkeeper 26 tickets.

On motion Com. ap<sup>d</sup>. to examine Treasurer Combe's accounts.

1781. *May 4.* (4 present.)

Letter of Jefferson read.

1781. *June 5.* (Tuesday). (10 present.)

Special meeting called by D<sup>r</sup>. Bond to hear M<sup>r</sup>. Biddle's report on the situation of the Silk Society, "so situated as to render it altogether vain and fruitless to apply to those who have been directors, for obtaining the stock" and recommending that an Act of Assembly be sought for transfer of the unexpended funds. Committee appointed to draft petition.

1781. *July 20.* (9 present.)

Papers and a *book of minutes* ending at the date of the union of the societies were presented.

M<sup>r</sup>. Matlack related a remarkable thunder storm of July 10.

1781. *Sep. 21.* (8 present.)

M<sup>r</sup>. Hopkinson and Matlack were authorized to adjust M<sup>r</sup>. Combe's accounts, and obtain balance due.

The Secretaries were directed to get M<sup>r</sup>. Hopkinson's bond as Treasurer.

Com. of three appointed to prepare a bill for vesting the stock of the Silk Society in this Corporation, according to the leave given by the Hon. House of General Assembly.

1781. *Sep. 29* (Saturday). (4 present.)

Special meeting to consider the draft of the bill. Com. appointed to present it to the Gen. Assembly. (The Com. reported at the next meeting that it had done so.)

1781. No minutes until *Dec. 21.* (6 present.)

Ordered: An address to Gen. Washington “on the late glorious event in Virginia.” Com. to draft it:—Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. White, Mr. J. B. Smith, and T. Matlack.

V. P. Bond exhibited an uncommon kidney of the human body, so that the society might see it before he dissected it. Although shrunken it was of not less than 3 pints capacity.

“Mr. Vice President was requested to favour the Society with an oration for the present year, and he was so obliging as to engage to deliver it accordingly.”

1781. *Dec. 27* (Thursday).

Committee’s draft of address to Washington read and agreed to.

[The address occupies the following page.]

Ordered, that the Governor and officers of the Society be requested to attend at the delivery of the address.

1782. *Jan. 4.* (Library room, Carpenter’s Hall.)

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

*President*, Dr. Franklin.

*V. P.*, Bond, Rittenhouse and Wilson [Pastor of 1st Pres. Church.]

*Secs.*, Ewing, White, Hutchinson, Matlack.

*Curators*, Nicola, Duffield, Gray.

*Treas.*, Francis Hopkinson.

*Councillors*, Reed, J. B. Smith, J. Ingersoll, Owen Biddle.

1782. *Jany 18.* [Merely names;—nothing follows until]

1782. *May 3.* (4 present.)

Letter from M. D’Abeville, Col. Artil., French army, about a partridge with two hearts.